

Claims

1-9 Canceled

10. (New) A method of operating a motor vehicle cruise control system, the method comprising:

determining a possibility or a necessity that a driver of a vehicle takes over vehicle control in the immediate future; and

indicating to the driver that a take-over is imminent in the immediate future when the possibility or necessity of a take-over of vehicle control by the driver is detected.
11. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein data or signals from a vehicle navigation system are taken into consideration in order to determine the possibility or necessity of a take-over of vehicle control by the driver.
12. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein a vehicle navigation system and an adaptive cruise control system take care of linking data.
13. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein a change of direction is determined as the imminent action that will require the driver take over control of the vehicle, and a speed predetermined by the driver is not taken into account as a command variable for engine torque or brake torque requirement.
14. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein when an impending change of direction is detected which requires the attention of the driver is a turning maneuver, a special control mode is triggered that reduces a speed of the vehicle by a slow engine torque reduction.

15. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein when an impending change of direction is detected which requires the attention of the driver is a turning maneuver, an automatic braking will be performed that does not exceed a value of - 0.1 g approximately, depending on a vehicle speed and a distance from a point where a significant change of direction shall take place.
16. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein when an impending change of direction is detected which requires the attention of the driver is a turning maneuver, automatic braking will be performed that slows the vehicle down to a speed assigned to a current roadway, such as a motor highway or a country road, or achieves a reduction of vehicle speed which is noticeable to the driver, depending on the vehicle speed and a distance from a point where a significant change of direction shall take place.
17. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein a possibility or a necessity that a driver of a vehicle takes over vehicle control in the immediate future is determined when the possibility or necessity of take-over is impending within a period of 15 seconds (sec.) up to 140 seconds.
18. (New) A method of operating a motor vehicle cruise control system, the method comprising:

predicting a driving situation that makes a take-over of a vehicle control by a driver or an increased attention of the driver in the immediate future likely or necessary;
and

indicating to the driver that a take-over is imminent in the immediate future when the possibility or necessity of a take-over of vehicle control by the driver is predicted.